



Billing Code 4310-55

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-HQ-IA-2013-N253]

[FXIA16710900000P5-123-FF09A30000]

Endangered Species; Marine Mammals; Receipt of Applications for Permit

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications for permit.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species, marine mammals, or both. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) prohibit activities with listed species unless Federal authorization is acquired that allows such activities.

DATES: We must receive comments or requests for documents on or before [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]. We must receive requests for marine mammal permit public hearings, in writing, at the address shown in the ADDRESSES section by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Brenda Tapia, Division of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 212, Arlington, VA 22203; fax (703) 358-2280; or email DMAFR@fws.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brenda Tapia, (703) 358-2104 (telephone); (703) 358-2280 (fax); DMAFR@fws.gov (email).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Comment Procedures

A. How Do I Request Copies of Applications or Comment on Submitted Applications?

Send your request for copies of applications or comments and materials concerning any of the applications to the contact listed under **ADDRESSES**. Please include the *Federal Register* notice publication date, the PRT-number, and the name of the applicant in your request or submission. We will not consider requests or comments sent to an email or address not listed under **ADDRESSES**. If you provide an email address in your request for copies of applications, we will attempt to respond to your request electronically.

Please make your requests or comments as specific as possible. Please confine your comments to issues for which we seek comments in this notice, and explain the basis for your comments. Include sufficient information with your comments to allow us to authenticate any scientific or commercial data you include.

The comments and recommendations that will be most useful and likely to influence agency decisions are: (1) Those supported by quantitative information or studies; and (2) Those that include citations to, and analyses of, the applicable laws and regulations. We will not consider or include in our administrative record comments we receive after the close of the comment period (see **DATES**) or comments delivered to an address other than those listed above (see **ADDRESSES**).

B. May I Review Comments Submitted by Others?

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the street address listed under **ADDRESSES**. The public may review

documents and other information applicants have sent in support of the application unless our allowing viewing would violate the Privacy Act or Freedom of Information Act.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

II. Background

To help us carry out our conservation responsibilities for affected species, and in consideration of section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), along with Executive Order 13576, “Delivering an Efficient, Effective, and Accountable Government,” and the President’s Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies of January 21, 2009 - Transparency and Open Government (74 FR 4685; January 26, 2009), which call on all Federal agencies to promote openness and transparency in Government by disclosing information to the public, we invite public comment on these permit applications before final action is taken. Under the MMPA, you may request a hearing on any MMPA application received. If you request a hearing, give specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate. The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Service Director.

III. Permit Applications

A. Endangered Species

Applicant: Houston Zoo, Houston, TX; PRT-14237B

The applicant requests a permit to import a live, female captive-bred Baird's tapir (*Tapirus bairdii*) for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

Applicant: University of California San Diego, San Diego, CA; PRT-03110B

The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples from deceased captive-bred specimens of Chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*), Western lowland gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla*), and Bornean orangutan (*Pongo pygmaeus pygmaeus*) from the Primate Brain Bank, Amsterdam, Netherlands, for the purpose of scientific research.

Applicant: Zoological Society of San Diego, San Diego, CA; PRT-069323

The applicant requests renewal of their permit to authorize the export and re-export of captive-bred/captive hatched live specimens and the export of viable eggs of California condors (*Gymnogyps californianus*) originating in the United States, as well as the re-export of wild live specimens or condors originating in Mexico, to La Secretaria de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (SEMARNAT), San Angel, Mexico, for re-introduction into the wild to enhance the survival of the species through completion of identified tasks and objectives mandated under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Condor Recovery Plan. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Applicant: University of California Santa Cruz, San Diego, CA; PRT-96462A

The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples from one captive-bred Bonobo (*Pan paniscus*) from Desire Rech, Saldris, France, for the purpose of scientific research. This amends the notification published in the Federal Register (78 FR 40762; July 8, 2013) and reopens the 30-day comment period.

Applicant: Guy Quinn, Bonita Springs, FL; PRT-19966B

The applicant requests a permit to import a sport-hunted trophy of one male bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus pygargus*) culled from a captive herd maintained under the management program of the Republic of South Africa, for the purpose of enhancement of the survival of the species.

B. Endangered Marine Mammals and Marine Mammals

**Applicant: Seward Association for the Advancement of Marine Science, Alaska
SeaLife Center, Seward, AK; PRT-11219B**

The applicant requests a permit to take non-releasable Pacific walrus (*Odobenus rosmarus*) for the purpose of public display. These would be animals that strand in Alaska and that the Service would declare non-releasable because they do not demonstrate the skills and abilities needed to survive in the wild. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a 5-year period.

Concurrent with publishing this notice in the *Federal Register*, we are forwarding copies of the above applications to the Marine Mammal Commission and the Committee of Scientific Advisors for their review.

**Brenda Tapia,
Program Analyst/Data Administrator,
Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.**

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